THE VOTE, Nov. 16, 1923. ONE PENNY.

ONE WEEK TO THE

OF THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE. THE ORGAN

Vol. XXIV. No. 734.

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FRIDAY, Nov. 16, 1923

OBJECT: To secure for Women the Parliamentary vote as it is or may be granted to men; to use the powers already obtained to elect women in Parliament, and upon other public bodies, for the purpose of establishing equality of rights and opportunities between the sexes, and to promote the social and industrial wellbeing of the community.

PRINCIPAL CONTENTS.

ONE WEEK TO THE FAIR! OUR ELECTION POLICY. WOMEN PARLIAMENTARY CANDIDATES. WOMEN AT HOME AND ABROAD.

HUSBAND, WIFE, AND THE LAW. THE FUTURE OF DOMESTIC SERVICE. WOMEN AND UNEMPLOYMENT. GREEN, WHITE, AND GOLD FAIR.

ONE WEEK TO THE FAIR.

GREEN CENTRAL HALL,

FRIDAY,

NOVEMBER 23

GOLD

SATURDAY.

NOVEMBER 24

FAIR

Come to the Fair, bring what you can't spare, We are all looking forward to meeting you there!

OUR ELECTION POLICY.

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In view of the imminence of a General Election, the Election Policy of the Women's Freedom League is, briefly, as follows :-

Wherever a suitable woman candidate stands for Parliament, we shall (provided that where we have a Branch in the locality her candidature is approved by that Branch) give her all the support in our power, irrespective of the political Party to which she belongs. suitability" is defined by her willingness to work both inside and outside Parliament for the equality of

our Branches and members to get their replies to the following questions, and to vote for or against them according to the satisfactoriness or otherwise of the

the earliest possible date, which will secure-

- (i) Equal political voting rights for women and men, and equal eligibility to the Second Chamber?
- (2) Equal pay and equal opportunities as between women (whether married or unmarried) and men elections, and the appeal was allowed. in the professions, in civil and Local Government services, and in industries?
- (3) The raising of the age of consent for girls to 18 years, with a similar protection for boys?
- (4) An equal status for married women with married men in regard to the guardianship of children, their equal right with men to retain or choose their nationality, and their separate assessment for Income Tax?
- (5) Will you also do your utmost to secure provision for women as well as for men in any schemes devised by the Government for the relief or training of the unemployed?

WOMEN PARLIAMENTARY CANDIDATES.

As we go to press, we learn that the following Political Parties, as Parliamentary candidates for the following constituencies. The majority of these women are standing for re-election, and against these are recorded the number of votes they polled at the last General Election, in 1922.

(Sutton).

MRS. HILTON PHILLIPSON, M.P. (12,000), Berwick. DAME HELEN GWYNNE-VAUGHAN (8,066), Camberwell

Mrs. WINTRINGHAM, M.P. (11,609), Louth (Lincs).

LADY TERRINGTON (11,154), South Bucks.

MRS. CORBETT ASHBY (5,673), Richmond.

MRS. MARCUS DIMSDALE, Cambridgeshire.

MISS URSULA WILLIAMS, Consett, Durham. (Invited to stand.)

Independent:

MRS. OLIVER STRACHEY (7,804), Middlesex: Brentford and Chiswick.

Labour:

DR. ETHEL BENTHAM (5,900), Islington (E.).

MISS MARGARET BONDFIELD (14,498), Northampton.

MISS SUSAN LAWRENCE (6,747), East Ham (N.).

MISS MARY RICHARDSON (5,342), Middlesex: Acton.

MISS MINNIE PALLISTER, Bournemouth.

Mrs. M. A. Hamilton, Chatham.

THE COUNTESS OF WARWICK, Learnington.

MRS. AYRTON GOULD (3,353), Lambeth (N.).

WOMAN WINS CLAIM TO VOTE.

According to the Morning Post, Judge Rowlands, at Swansea County Court this week, granted the appeal of Mrs. Catherine Hodgens against the refusal of the Registration Officer to allow her a Parliamentary vote in respect of business premises occupied by her husband in one ward of the borough, she having already been registered as a Parliamentary voter in respect of the house in which she lived with her husband, which is in another ward of the borough. His Honour held With regard to all men candidates, we are asking that Mrs. Hodgens's husband was entitled to be registered as a voter for the Borough Council in the ward in which he resided, and as a voter for the Guardians" elections for the ward in which his business premises Will you, if electe!, urge the Government to intro- were situated, and the latter made him a Local Govduce legislation, and pass it through all its stages at ernment elector within the meaning of the Representation of the People Act, 1918. Therefore his wife was entitled to a Parliamentary vote in the ward in which her husband had the right to vote in the Guardians'

CHILD ASSAULT AND VENEREAL DISEASE.

According to The Times, an extraordinary general meeting of the National Council for Combating Venereal Diseases was held at the Robert Barnes Hall, Wimpole Street, last Thursday. Lord Trevethin, President of the Council, was in the Chair.

On behalf of the Executive Committee, Commandant Allen moved: "That the National Council views with concern the extent of the crime of child assault. It is aware that many of these assaults lead to the communication of venereal diseases to young girls. They consider that public opinion should be aroused to the evil, and that the existing law should be stringently administered. They are of opinion that financial penalwomen have been definitely adopted by their respective ties do not act as a sufficient deterrent, and that severe penalties should be imposed." This was carried unanimously. The Council confirmed the recommendation of the Executive Committee that their representatives on the joint Conference of the National Council for Combating Venereal Diseases, and the Society for the Prevention of Venereal Disease, should form a THE VISCOUNTESS ASTOR, M.P. (13,924), Plymouth deputation to urge the Minister of Health to give effect to the recommendation of the Trevethin Report, that duly qualified chemists should be permitted to sell materials for self-disinfection, accompanied by instructions, providing no commercial advertising were permitted.

THE VOTE STALL.

PLEASE HELP!

There are only a few days left now before the Fair. Will every Reader, who has not already done so, endeavour to send a contribution to THE VOTE Stall in order that it may be a big success?

Donations or Saleable Articles of every description will be welcomed.

Kindly address all gifts to: THE VOTE Secretary, 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.

WOMEN AT HOME AND ABROAD.

Women Mayors.

Six women Mayors were elected on November 9th, including the first woman Lord Mayor, Miss Ethel Mary Colman, of Carrow Abbey, Norwich, eldest surviving daughter of the late Mr. J. J. Colman, at one time M.P. for Norwich. The other women Mayors are Mrs. R. Hill, Mayor of Harwich; Councillor Miss Beatrice Cartwright, Mayor of Brackley, Northampton (re-elected); Dame Janet Stancomb-Wills, Mayor of Ramsgate; Mrs. J. M. Phillips, Mayor of Honiton (re-elected for the fourth successive year); and Mrs. C. Buchanan Alderton, Mayor of Colchester. There is also one woman Deputy Mayor, Councillor Annie Lile,

Woman as Minister's Assistant.

Miss Dorothy F. Wilson was recently inducted as Minister's Assistant at Crosby Congregational Church. Miss Wilson, who is the daughter of Mr. Courthope Wilson, K.C., formerly of the Liverpool Bar, was previously associated with the work of Dr. Ivor J. Roberton, of Regent Square Church, London, and ex-Moderator of the Presbyterian Assembly.

Englishwoman Wins Prize Fellowship

A Prize Fellowship of 1,000 Swedish kroner, offered for research in science by the Swedish Federation of University Women, has been awarded to an Englishwoman, Mrs. Muriel Wheldale Onslow, M.A., whose work on the biochemistry of plants is well known. The Fellowship was open to the University women of 18

Woman Town Chamberlain.

The vacant post of Town Chamberlain in the burgh of Fort William has been filled by the appointment of Miss A. C. MacGregor. She was for some years an assistant in the Town Chamberlain's office, had acted as interim Chamberlain for six months, and fulfilled the duties so well that, although there were many men applicants, the Town Council unanimously appointed her to the post.

Actress's Honorary Degree.

Last week Manchester University conferred the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws on Miss Sybil Thorndike, in recognition of "a devotion to her profession which has had a profound influence upon national art." Miss Ellen Terry is the only other woman member of the theatrical profession to receive this honorary degree.

Jugoslavian Women's Congress.

A Congress of all the feminist societies in Jugoslavia has been held at Ljubljana, at which it was decided that all these societies should join to form an Alliance for Woman Suffrage in Jugoslavia. Delegates from the Croatian and Slovenian Roman Catholic Federations also participated in the Congress, and will take part in the work of the feminist Alliance.

Women's Home of Service, Madras.

During its first month of working, the Baby Welcome Centre attached to the Women's Home of Service registered 1,000 attendances of children, and a large number of women. Over 300 individual cases were treated with simple medicines. This experience shows how much needed such centres are in the suburbs and various towns of India

"Our Mary Ellen" Again!

Mrs. Mary Ellen Smith, the first British woman Cabinet Minister, who visited this country last summer, has, since her return to the British Columbia Legislature, seconded an address in reply to a speech from the Throne. She is the first woman in any British Legislative Assembly to be given such an honour.

Woman Governing Director.

Steel and Company, Ltd., have been registered as a private company, with a capital of £15,000 in £1 shares, to take over the business of builders' merchants, iron founders, and heating engineers carried on by Mrs. Katherine Hariette Steel, at Paley Street and Trimdon Street, Sunderland, as "Steel and Company." Mrs. K. H. Steel has been appointed sole governing

American Child Labour.

The League for Women Voters is about to conduct personal campaigns throughout the United States, to secure the individual allegiance of each Member of Congress for an amendment to the Constitution which will prohibit child labour under the age of 18.

American Woman's Appointment.

Miss Bell Sherwin has been appointed as Directorat-large of the Cleveland Association for Criminal Justice. Miss Sherwin is First Vice-President of the National League of Women Voters, and heads the League's work for education in citizenship.

Chinese Women's Progress.

The Suffrage Movement in China is sweeping all over the country, and to-day there are Suffrage Associations in practically every Province. Canton and Hunan have both given suffrage to women. The Shanghai Suffrage Association was organised last year, and is now issuing a monthly Chinese suffrage paper, entitled The Woman Citizen.

Women Barristers at Work.

Women barristers made an appearance at Cumberland Assizes recently. One was Miss Hesling, of Manchester, who joined the Northern Circuit at the Summer Assize, and the other was Miss C. Sorabji, of Lincoln's Inn. Miss C. M. Young, a woman barrister holding her first brief, successfully conducted a case in the Divorce Court recently, by means of which she obtained for her client a decree nisi and £100 damages.

A Perilous Journey.

Mrs. Ida Francis, widow of a Rand pioneer, has just completed a journey of 400 miles across the waterless Kalahari Desert. She set out in the middle of July with 600 cattle, and underwent the most severe hardships, but eventually reached her son's farm at Blikfontein.

Belgian Woman Registrar.

For the first time in the history of Belgium, a woman registrar performed the civil marriage ceremony, at Chenee, near Liège. This was Madame Magis, a member of the City Council, who performed this office in the absence of the Mayor, as next in order of position in the election returns.

Domestic Service in Switzerland.

A Bill has been drafted in Switzerland to make domestic training compulsory amongst all classes of girlhood under twenty years of age. This compulsory training will not begin until the girl has completed her elementary education, after which she must devote a year to domestic subjects.

Woman Pioneer Worker.

Mrs. Alfred Booth, whose death is reported at the age of 84, was one of the earliest Presidents of the National Union of Women Workers, now the National Council of Women, which she helped to found in conjunction with Mrs. Creighton and others.

Champion English Girl Knitter.

England has produced the best knitter in the competition for the United Kingdom and Irish Free State, organised by Messrs. Weldon's. Miss Gladys Hearle, of Knowle, Bristol, won a handsome silver Challenge Cup and a cheque for £250.

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FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 16th, 1923.

NOTICE.-Letters should be addressed as follows:-To the Advertising Manager—on advertising.
To the Secretary—on all other business, including Vote orders, printing, and merchandise, etc.

Telegrams: "DESPARD, Museum 1429, London." Telephone: MUSEUM 1429. FRITORIAL.

The Editor is responsible for unsigned articles only. Articles, paragraphs, or cuttings dealing with matters of interest to women generally will be welcomed. Every effort will be made to return unsuitable MSS. if a stamped addressed envelope be enclosed, but the Editor cannot be responsible in case of loss.

HUSBAND, WIFE, AND THE LAW.

The anomalous position in regard to the law of coercion of a wife was referred to at the Mansion House last week. A City company director had shot himself on the day on which he and his wife were summoned to answer the charge of issuing a false balance-sheet, and the case against the wife had been When it opened, the other day, Sir Richard Muir, for the prosecution, asked permission to withdraw the charge. According to the Morning Post. Sir Richard said that he had considered whether, on account of the difficulties that had arisen owing to the death of the male defendant, his clients could continue the prosecution. The bulk of the evidence would have been acts done by the male defendant not in the presence of the female defendant, and therefore would not be evidence against her, unless done in pursuance of a common purpose. He very much doubted whether the doctrine of acts done in pursuance of a common purpose applied as between husband and wife. Husband and wife were one, and a person could not be agent for himself or herself. Equally, the husband and wife, upon the same doctrine, could not be charged with conspiracy. The evidence of acts done by the wife in the presence of the husband would not be sufficient to convict her, because of the doctrine of marital coercion, which was still part of our law. Therefore, evidence against the woman would be limited to acts done by her not in the presence of her husband, and they formed so small a portion of the body of evidence in the case that in his judgment his clients were not bound either by a duty of law or of good citizenship to continue the prosecution, and they had instructed him to ask leave to withdraw from the prosecution. Alderman Sir Vansittart Bowater said that the law would perhaps one day be altered in regard to the coercion of a wife. Women now had separate rights, and were really in the same position as men. There was no doubt, as the law stood, Sir Richard was taking the right course. We think with Sir Vansittart Bowater that this particular law will one day be altered; but we emphatically do not agree with him that women are "really in the same position as men." The economic position of married women is not the same as that of their husbands. Every effort is apparently made to prevent women, who have a husband to support them, from earning a separate income, although a married woman has no legal claim to any portion of her husband's income, salary, or wages, and he is not compelled to do more in the way of "supporting" than to keep her off the rates, and provide her with medicine. Nor are women "really in the same position as men" in regard to their children. If the mother is unmarried, she is their sole guardian, and entirely responsible for their upbringing; but if she is married, the father alone has the right to say how and where the children shall be educated. There are other ways, too, in which the legal position of women is not 'really the same as that of men." and our own view is that these should all be removed before the alteration in the law of coercion of a wife, as they affect so many more women and inflict so much more injustice.

LONDON COUNTY COUNCIL, WOMEN TEACHERS AND CHILDREN.

More muddle is the result of the decision of the London County Council that women teachers must resign on marriage unless they were in permanent service on March 6th last. There are certain exceptions to this rule, and at the Education Committee last week, presided over by Mrs. Wilton Phipps, it was recommended by the General Purposes Sub-Committee that teachers employed as sessional or part-time teachers, "supply" teachers, and infants' assistants should be included in the exceptions. One member objected because he could see no difference between permanent and supply teachers, and, as an amendment, moved that the latter class be not exempted. It was pointed out by Mr. W. J. Pincombe that on several occasions the Committee had had great difficulty in obtaining teachers, and it would be deplorable if supply teachers, because of marriage, should be turned out of he service. Sir Harry Stephen, Chairman of the Sub-Committee, said he could not accept the amendment. He could not agree that a woman who was married and took to teaching was not a better teacher than a girl fresh from college. An amendment by Mr. Pincombe that married teachers should be eligible for employment or re-employment in the Council's service, was lost, and the Sub-Committee's proposals were agreed to.

Although the London County Council is continuing to staff its infants' schools with "motherly," untrained women of 18, out of the 369 students who left the Council's training colleges last summer, 137 have failed to obtain teaching posts. Similar failure is reported of 116 out of the 238 students who left the London Day Training College this year. This, in our view, does not spell "economy," but it is an intolerable waste of the country's resources.

Replying to a question put by Mr. J. D. Gilbert, M.P., at a meeting of the Education Committee last week, Mrs. Wilton Phipps said that about 65,000 children left elementary schools in London during the year in four batches at the end of four terms. complaints had been received from the Ministry of Labour as to the difficulty of dealing with so many children at one time, but the difficulty was much accentuated at those times when unemployment was prevalent, and she promised to ask the Education and Unemployment Committees to see if any recommendation could be made on the subject. We ourselves most strongly urge that all boys and girls should from henceforth be kept at school until they are fifteen or sixteen years of age, with maintenance grant when this is necessary, in order to prevent the unfair competition of these children in the labour market with the one and a quarter million men and women now unemployed.

An Emergency Report was presented to the Council last week by the General Purposes Sub-Committee on e treatment and care of physically defective children. It stated that the London County Council had five schools for tuberculous children, with accommodation for 365, but it was estimated that there were 2,000 children needing accommodation. The Metropolitan Asylums Board was seeking approval for the establishment of centres for the clinical after-care of child patients discharged from the Board's institutions, and the question of after-treatment of cases of deformity of tuberculous origin was being investigated. Report was deferred for further consideration.

WOMEN AND THE GENERAL ELECTION.

No one but the Party managers can view with favour the Government's decision to hold a General Election early in December. If the new proposals of Protection or Tariff Reform are of such far-reaching importance, women think that the electors of this country should be given time and data for consideration before they are asked to give their decision in this matter. If they are not of such high importance, women want to know why the country should be plunged into the turmoil of a second General Election within twelve months, when there is so much distressful unemployment with which the Government promised to cope?

THE FUTURE OF DOMESTIC SERVICE.

THE VOTE

A discussion meeting, in connection with the recently issued Report by the Women's Committee set up by the Labour Ministry to investigate the conditions of Domestic Service, was held by the Women's Freedom League at the Minerva Club, Brunswick Square, on Thursday of last week.

Miss Morton, M.B.E., who presided, said though there were, no doubt, some debatable things in the Report, it was characterised throughout by a spirit of great moderation. She personally was particularly interested in the scheme suggested in the Report for giving servants pensions, on a contributory basis, on reaching the age of 55. She also suggested that the domestic problem would be solved more readily if boys and men were taught to take their share of work in the home. At present the boy out of school was a free agent, but the girl out of school had all sorts of home duties thrust upon her.

Viscountess Rhondda, who opened the discussion, proposed the following Resolution :-

'That, following the remarks made in the Report of the Committee appointed by the Ministry of Labour to inquire into the present conditions as to the supply of female domestic servants, this meeting desires to urge the Government to give an immediate grant to the Central Committee for Women's Training and Employment, to enable this Committee to continue its fine work until trade conditions have become more normal."

Lady Rhondda stressed the extraordinarily interesting nature of the Report, because it dealt with a subject which was intimately bound up with the comfort and happiness of a large section of the population, and praised the moderation and impartiality with which it had been drawn up. The Committee had investigated carried unanimously.

all possible evidence in much detail, and with great patience; and, although the subject was an exceedingly controversial one, had arrived at absolutely unanimous conclusions. People to-day were suffering in health and general lack of comfort from their failure to realise that housework was in the nature of a skilled trade. The theory that every woman was automatically good at housework had done a great deal of harm, and she was glad to see this point of view refuted in the Report. She feared that the proposal to give instruction in Domestic Service in secondary schools would place girls at a disadvantage in the competition for scholarships, by deducting valuable half-hours from their general education, but she could see no reason why boys should not be equally instructed in Domestic Service. In German schools, the time given to arithmetic in boys' classes was devoted to teaching sewing to the girls, and she did not want to see that copied in England. She strongly approved of the allusions in the Report to the relationship between mistress and maid. Every mistress should make her maid feel that the place was her home. She also agreed with the suggestion that domestic servants should be given the vote on attaining the statutory age. The impression prevailed amongst a great many people that servants did not want the vote. This, however, was contrary to Lady Rhondda's own experience. She had met with great indignation amongst servants, that they were not allowed to vote because they lived in other people's

Many questions and an animated discussion followed Lady Rhondda's remarks, after which the Resolution, which was seconded by Miss F. A. Underwood, was

UNEMPLOYMENT. WOMEN AND

employment, convened by the Women's Advisory ment. The present problem amongst unemployed Committee of the Labour Party, over 1,200 women from local Labour Parties, Women's Co-operative Guilds, and Trade Unions applied for tickets, 800 of world since the war. whom were either unemployed themselves, or the wives of unemployed men.

all the resources of the nation to provide schemes of useful work for unemployed workers, and demanding additional grants to the Central Committee on Women's Training and Employment, was proposed 14 and 18 who could not find employment, or else from the Chair by Mrs. Ada Salter, Mayor of Bermondsey, supported by Miss Margaret Bondfield, Mr. unanimously.

Miss Bondfield explained that the Central Committee on Women's Training and Employment, founded by the late Mary MacArthur in the early days of the war, to cope with the unemployment amongst women which was then so prevalent, had been ever since the one and only channel of relief for unemployed women in this country. During these years the Committee had exercised the utmost economy, and spent only £600,000 on its various Home Crafts, Home Makers, Clerical, and Outfit schemes. Of this sum the Government had only contributed £100,000, although in the case of unemployed men some 50 millions had recently been voted. There were 275,000 unemployed women recorded to-day on the live registers of the Labour Exchanges, and a still larger number who had not signed. Women

At last week's Women's Demonstration on Un- were also being vitally affected by men's unemploymen had never been so serious, owing to the large numbers of women who had entered the industrial

Mr. C. G. Ammon, M.P., L.C.C., expressed concern at the thousands of boys and girls, in the present day, A Resolution, calling upon the Government to use who had left school, and were unable to find work. Every year 600,000 young people of both sexes left the elementary schools. In London alone there were 40,000 boys and girls between the ages of spent their time in blind-alley occupations, and for whom no provision was being made. Only 10 per cent. Ammon, M.P., and Dr. Marion Phillips, and carried of these came under the Insurance Act. They were rapidly forgetting their education, and being manufactured into a vast army of young unemployables. The Day Continuation Schools which had been started to cope with this problem were now practically in abeyance, and Lady Astor's recent proposal at the Unionist Conference at Plymouth, to raise the school-leaving age from 14 to 16, had been turned down by the Conservative

> Dr. Marion Phillips stressed the fact that the evil effects of unemployment were being felt abroad, as well as at home. The whole world to-day was being confronted with the same acute problems of distress and unemployment. A new spirit in foreign affairs was urgently needed, so that our markets might be opened again everywhere, and trade revived. Brotherhood amongst the nations was the imperative need of the

GREEN. WHITE. AND GOLD FAIR.

The Annual Green, White, and Gold Fair will be held on Friday and Saturday, November 23rd and 24th, in the Basement Hall, at the Central Hall, Westminster, and will be opened on Friday, November 23rd, at 3.30 p.m., by The Lady Amherst of Hackney, and on Saturday, November 24th, at 3.30 p.m., by Miss Lilian Barker. The Fair will be open from 3 to 9 p.m. The Chair will be taken on the Friday Councillor Mrs. Schofield Coates, J.P., and on Saturday by Dr. Octavia Lewin.

STALLS AND STALLHOLDERS.

The Stalls at present arranged for the League are :-Hampstead Branch.—Handkerchiefs, Antiques, and White Elephants. Miss Goodliffe, Miss Lyndon, Miss Vibert, and Mrs. Harvey James. Montgomery Boroughs Branch.—Welsh Produce and General Stalls. Miss Alix M. Clark, Mrs. Elias, and

Portsmouth Branch.—Household. Mrs. Whetton and Mrs.

South-Eastern Branches.—General Stall. Miss White and Misses Stone.
Branches (Edinburgh and Glasgow).—Woollies.

Miss Munro, Miss Eva Munro, and Miss Steven. General Stall.—Mrs. Thomas, Mrs. Abbott, and Miss

General Stall (2).-Mrs. Lloyd. Overalls and Aprons.—Mrs. Mustard, The Misses Underwood, Mrs. Bayne, and Miss Brewer.

Pound Stall.—Miss Merridith and The Misses Stutchbury.

Stationery Stall.—Mrs. Preece, Mrs. Armey, Miss Thomas, and Miss Wilkerson.

Toy Stall .- Mrs. Knight, Mrs. Shore, Mrs. Mockford, and Mrs. Mocock.
e Stall.—Mrs. Holmes, Mrs. Catmur, and Mrs.

Trafford Williams. Hygiene Stall.—Dr. Octavia Lewin.

Literature Stall.—Miss Telling, Miss Kirby, Miss Branson,

and Mrs. Aucott. "Yote" Stall.—Mrs. Flowers, Mrs. Northcroft, Mrs. Evans, Mrs. Newsome, Miss Reeves, and Mrs. Hanscomb.

This is the last week left before the Fair, and members and friends are asked to do all in their power

towards making the Fair a great success.

Please remember that gifts are wanted for every stall; every kind of article will be welcome, and nothing will be too large or too small to be of use.

A great effort has been made to make the Fair even more attractive than usual, and it is hoped that all readers of THE VOTE, and members and friends of the League, will make a point of being present themselves, and bring as many of their friends as they can with

PRIZE COMPETITIONS.

Messrs. Weldon and Co., 30-32, Southampton Street, Strand, W.C.2, have offered a prize of Two Guineas for the best Camisole made from one of their Patterns, and competitors may use any materials they wish. A label bearing the number of Messrs. Weldon's Pattern, also the name and address of the competitor, must be firmly sewn to the Camisole.

Messrs. Hawes Brothers, St. John's Road, Clapham Junction, London, S.W.11, have also offered a prize of a handsome Leather Handbag (fitted) for the best Jumper in knitting or crochet, made with their artificial silk. The competitors may use any quality of Messrs. Hawes Bros.' artificial silk they like. A label bearing the name and address of the competitor, also the receipted bill of Messrs. Hawes Bros. for the artificial silk, must be firmly sewn to the Jumper.

Both competitions are open to members and non-The entrance fee for these competitions will be 6d. All Camisoles and Jumpers sent in for competition will be sold afterwards for the good of the cause.

All exhibits for Competitions should be addressed to the Hon. Fair Secretary, Women's Freedom League, 144, High Holborn, W.C.1, and sent not later than November 15th.

The part of the Hall reserved for the Competitions will be decorated to represent "A Corner of Old Bagdad," with all the magic and wonders of the East. Members and friends must make a special effort to visit this part of the Fair.

The Competitions and Games will be under the direction of Miss Dickeson and Mrs. Whitley, and other members of the Golders Green Branch.

ENTERTAINMENTS.

The Entertainments will be varied and attractive, and will include Readings by Henrietta Leslie and Mr. F. W. Soutter; Recitations by Miss Bessie Broomhall, Miss Jacob, and Mrs. Harvey James; Songs by Miss Mary Baker, Mrs. Cunningham, Miss Marianne Elias, Mrs. Eleanor Coates, Miss Stella Godwin, Miss Fred Thomas, Mr. Frank Legge, Mr. Percy Kelly, Miss Newman, Mr. Eric Richmond and Mr. Frost; Piano Solos by Mrs. Van Raalte, Mrs. Rush, and Mr. P. A. Hurren. The Concerts will be given at 5.30 and 15 each day, and will be under the direction of Mrs. Legge. Character Readings will be given by Mrs. Grace Goodall and Mrs. Spon, and Phrenology by Mr. Sons and Mr. S. W. Marshall.

The Teas, Suppers, and Refreshments will be served at moderate prices, and have been undertaken by Mrs. Fisher, Mrs. Pierotti, and the staff of the Minerva Café.

SOCIETIES TAKING STALLS.

The Nine Elms Settlement. The League of the Church Militant. The Catholic Women's Suffrage Society. The Bucks Cottage Workers' Agency. The Friends Relief. The Food Education Society.

St. Dunstan's.
The Montessori Society. The British Esperanto Association. The British Esperanto Association.
The Stonehenge Woollen Industry.
Miss Burwood (Beads).
Madame Buie (Egyptian Industries).
Minnie Culverwell (Handicrafts).
Miss Ramsey (Roumanian Goods).
Miss Phyllis Mott (East European Agency).

The Misses Shuffrey (Ymagynatyf Pottery).
Miss Nettleton (Association for the Deaf and Dumb). All communications should be sent to Miss Elizabeth BERRY (Hon. Fair Sec.), at this Office.

Tickets, including tax, price 2/6 the first day until 5 o'clock; after 5 p.m. and on the second day, price 1/3,

RECIPROCAL VOWS IN THE ANGLICAN MARRIAGE SERVICE.

A Public Meeting to urge the importance of reciprocal vows in the Anglican Marriage Service was held at the Central Hall, Westminster, on Monday night, under the auspices of the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship, Miss Eleanor Rathbone, J.P., C.C., presiding.

Miss Maude Royden moved the following Resolution:-"That this meeting of men and women calls upon the National Assembly to recommend the revision of the Marriage Service of the Established Church of England, in accordance with the principle implicit in the teaching of the Gospels, based on equality of position and obligation between husband and wife.

Lady Barrett, C.B.E., M.D., seconded it, and when put to the meeting, it was carried unanimously.

A second Resolution, proposed by the Countess of Selborne, J.P.: "Seeing that the wife's vow to obey her husband, and the husband's vow to endow his wife with all his worldly goods, frequently neither are nor can be nor ought to be carried out, such untruths should not form part of a solemn religious ceremony," was seconded by the Rev. Canon W. Hay Aitken, M.A., and was carried unanimously.

WOMEN CITIZENS' RECEPTION.

The Women Citizens' Association gave a delightful afternoon Reception at the Hyde Park Hotel last Tuesday, in honour of the wives of the Dominion Premiers now over in this country. Viscountess Rhondda, President of the Association, welcomed the visitors from Overseas, in a brief speech, and was supported by Mrs. Gardiner and Mrs. Ogilvie Gordon. Mrs. Wilson responded on behalf of the Overseas visitors.

Women's Freedom League.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 1923.

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FORTHCOMING EVENTS W.F.L. LONDON AND SUBURBS.



Wednesday, November 21st, at 7 p.m. Mid-London Branch. Public Meeting, Minerva Café, 144, High Holborn, W.C.1. Subject: "The Present Policy of the Ministry of Health with regard to Infectious Diseases." Speaker: Mi-s Loat. Chairman: Miss Steven. DARE TO
BE FREE.

Speaker: MISS Loat. Chairman: Miss Steven.
Friday and Saturday, November 23rd and 24th.
Central Hall, Westminster, Green, White, and
Gold Fair. To be opened on Friday, at 3.30, by
The Lady Amherst of Hackney, and on Saturday,
at 3.30, by Miss Lilian Barker, C.B.E.

Sub-Committee Meeting at 144, High Holborn, W.C.1.

PROVINCES.

Saturday, November 17th, at 3.30 p.m. Middlesbrough. Members to bring Gifts for the Fair to "Agecroft," Linthorpe Road, instead of Monday, November 19th.

Wednesday, November 19th.

Wednesday, November 28th, at 8 p.m. Brighton. A meeting will be held in Hove Town Hall Banqueting Hall). Speaker:

Mrs. Mustard. Chairman: Miss Hare.

SCOTLAND.

Friday, November 16th, at 7.30 p.m. Glasgow. Religious Institute Rooms, Buchanan Street. Speaker: Miss K. B. Cameron, ex-Sec. Scottish Small Holders' Association. Subject "Land Question." Friends cordially invited.

OTHER SOCIETIES.

Tuesday, November 20th, at 7.30 p.m. North Ormesby. Parish Church. Women's Fellowship. Speaker: Councillor Mrs. Schofield Coates, J.P.

Wednesday, November 21st, at 8 p.m. Women's League of Union, Oak Room, Kingsway Hall. American Tea Party for

Hankow Funds

Hankow Funds.

Sunday, December 2nd, at 6.30 p.m. Kingston Church of Humanity,
Orchard Road. Speaker: Mr. William Platt (author of "The
Joy of Education.") Subject: "Simplicity and Sincerity in
Music." Chairman: Miss F. A. Underwood.

1924. Saturday, April 5th. Caxton Hall, Westminster. Women's Freedom League Seventeenth Annual Conference.

CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE OF WOMEN'S ORGANISATIONS.

The Consultative Committee of Women's Organisations held its November meeting on Thursday, the 8th inst., at 92, Victoria Street. Attention was drawn to the need for further pressure to ensure that the Guardianship of Infants Bill, 1923, and the Summary Jurisdiction (Separation and Maintenance) Bill, 1923, were placed on the Statute Book this Session. Discussion followed on placed on the Statute Book this Session. Discussion followed on the teaching of the Syllabus of the Hygiene of Food and Drink, and it was pointed out that, whilst in some elementary schools this was done efficiently, the use of the Syllabus was not universal. The meeting closed with an account by Dame Meriel Talbot, D.B.E. (Society for Oversea Settlement of British Women), on the D.B.E. (Society for Oversea Settlement of Inflash Worlden), of the prospect and possibilities for women in the Dominions. Dame Meriel emphasised the importance of emigration for women, both because of the disproportion of the sexes in this country and because of the need for women in the Dominions. A certain number of professional women could be absorbed, but the main demand was still for domestic help.

APRONS AND OVERALLS.

The Misses Underwood most warmly thank Miss E. Morton for brilliantly coloured cretonne for overall, Mrs. A. Brewer for dainty children's aprons and cushion cover, Miss Brewer (Ditton Hill) for beautifully knitted children's garments, and Mrs. Levy for children's overalls. Further gifts for this stall-will be very gratefully acknowledged by any of the stall-holders.

DIAR'ES.

The Women's Freedom League Diaries for 1924 are now ready at our Literature Department, price 2s. 3d., post free 2s. 4d. They are attractively got up in green morocco leather cover, gusset paper pocket at front, and pencil. Please order quickly, as we have only a limited number for sale.

BRANCH NOTES.

MIDDLESBROUGH.

The Middlesbrough Branch of the Women's Freedom League held their monthly meeting in the Suffrage Café on November 3rd. Congratulations were expressed to our President, Councillor Mrs. Schofield Coates, J.P., on her victory at the Municipal Elections; also to Councillor Mrs. Coates Hansen. Both women have served on the Town Council before, and we feel they will be a great asset to our Municipal Chamber. Arrangements have been made to have speeches on March 3rd, also May 5th, 1924, by Miss Winifred Jones, of the Dormans Girls' Club, and Miss Prinn, of the Women's Settlement. Arrangements are also to be made to Winifred Jones, of the Dormans Girls' Club, and Miss Prinn, of the Women's Settlement. Arrangements are also to be made to have a Model Election on "P.R.," and we shall have a meeting to discuss the Domestic Servants report. The Treasurer's report and balance were read by the Secretary, owing to continued illness of the Treasurer, Mrs. Wright. Thanks were tendered for her services, and hopes expressed for a speedy recovery. Mrs. Crowther, Vote Secretary, reported a further increased sale of six copies per week, making a total of three dozen copies per week. We enrolled two more new members, making a total of five since opening last month for our winter session. five since opening last month for our winter session.

(Hon. Sec.) Mrs. H. Hughes.

HAMPSTEAD.

HAMPSTEAD.

A meeting of the Branch was held at 7, Gainsborough Gardens (by kind invitation of Dr. Knight), on Monday, November 5th, at 3 p.m. The winter work was discussed, and arrangements were made for meetings in January and February. Mrs. Harverson kindly offered the use of the Isis Club for a social gathering on Wednesday, January 30th, at 8 p.m., when there will be music, and a speech by Miss Elsie Morton on Proportional Representation. Mrs. Harverson also kindly placed the Club at the disposal of the Branch for Wednesday evening, February 27th, at 8 o'clock, when Mrs. Northcroft will give an address on "Women's Work in the League of Nations." It was decided to send a letter to the Minister of Health, and also to some of the local Guardians, re the case of Dr. Alix Jeanne Churchill. The date of the next Branch meeting was fixed for Monday, January 14th, at 3 p.m. At the conclusion of the meeting, Dr. Knight kindly entertained those present to tea. Gratefully acknowledged: Miss Goodliffe (second donation), £1; Miss Lyndon, £2. (Hon. Sec.) Miss Elizabeth Berry, 16, Denning Rd., N.W.3.

ASHFORD.

We were pleased to see so many of the members at Miss Munro's meeting last Monday, at the Hempsted Street Adult School. They were rewarded by hearing a very fine speech on the subject of the position of women in our own and other countries. Miss Anna Munro dealt at length with the political, countries. Muss Anna Munro deart at length with the political, social, and economic position of women in Sweden, Norway, Italy, Germany, and America. She also told some very interesting anecdotes of the Japanese women. Mrs. Richardson presided. Tea, which was kindly provided by the Committee, proved to be acceptable, and many of the members were introduced to Miss Munro, who was warmly thanked for her speech, and asked to come again as soon as possible. Our next event will be the Christmas Party, on Wednesday, December 6th.

TEDDINGTON.

A Public Meeting was held last Monday evening at the Adult School Hall, Clarence Road, when Dr. Octavia Lewin gave a fascinating address on "The Teaching of Citizenship." She insisted that it was never too early to teach a child good and clean habits, which led to physical and mental health, the basis of all good citizenship. Imitation was one of the best ways of teaching a child, and she urged that children should be given dolls with closed mouths, and garments made with breast pockets with attached pocket-handkerchiefs. Her lecture was illustrated by diagrams, dolls, and sketches. A long and animated discussion followed, which proved the interest aroused. Miss Underwood, who took the Chair, explained briefly the objects of the Women's Freedom League, and we hope very much to have further meetings in the near future addressed by Women's Freedom League speakers. Freedom League speakers.

HASTINGS.

All our members will rejoice to see in the local paper that their fellow-member, Councillor Annie Lile, has been appointed to be Deputy Mayor. We congratulate Councillor Arthur Blackman, the new Mayor, on his sporting act in appointing a woman to act as his Deputy. Miss Lile has a considerable period of public service to her credit, having served on the Hastings School Board for a time, and also on the Board of Guardians. In 1918 she was returned as a successful candidate for the Town Council.

CONFERENCE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

As stated previously in THE VOTE, a Conference on Women As stated previously in The Vote, a Conference on Women Councillors, Guardians, and Magistrates will be held on Wednesday and Thursday, December 5th and 6th, in the Board Room of the Metropolitan Asylums Board, the Chairman of which will preside at the afternoon session on December 5th. Tickets must be obtained beforehand, the prices being 1s. for single sessions, and 3s. for all sessions. On December 7th, visits will be arranged to Local Government institutions, including the St. Marylebone Borough Council's plant for refuse sorting and destruction.

FRIDAY. NOV. 16. 1923.

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NOTICES.

PELLOWSHIP SERVICES.—Guildhouse, Eccleston Square, S.W.1.
Sunday, November 18th. 3.30. Music,
Poetry, Lecture. Dr. Dearmer. 6.30.
Miss Maude Royden. "Christ Triumphant: V. The State and the Offender."

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